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U.S. Galaxy C-5 Aircraft Transports Medical Equipment Donation to Bolivia

A United States Air Force Galaxy C-5 aircraft transported 53,000 pounds of medical and healthcare equipment, with an estimated value of \$47,000, to Bolivia. The equipment was donated unconditionally by U.S.-based NGO Mano a Mano.

The Galaxy C-5, the largest military transport aircraft in the United States, made several stops in Latin American countries to deliver humanitarian medical assistance from private U.S. organizations. The U.S. Department of Defense, under its Denton program, provides flights to deliver humanitarian relief items at no cost to the donors or the recipients. This initiative allows donors to use available space in U.S. military flights to transport humanitarian assistance and medical supplies to needy countries completely free of charge. This program is coadministered by USAID, the U.S. Department of State, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Among the donated supplies were beds, mattresses, night tables, crutches, wheelchairs, office chairs, dental examination chairs, medical examination tables, and many more. These resources will be channeled through the NGO Catholic Relief Services and handed over to Mano a Mano/Cochabamba, which will distribute them among several public hospitals in the country. Mano a Mano will also use part of this donation to equip the healthcare centers it runs in Bolivia.